could not be released to the State Govt. as the State has yet to prepare a Medium-Term Fiscal Reforms Programme.

As per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Finance for utilisation of local bodies grants, such grants shall be released to States that have completed the due election process in respect of local bodies. Further, in case of delay in holding local bodies elections, funds will be deducted proportionately. Since the elections to Panchayats in Gujarat had been held only in December, 2001, the State Government is not eligible for grants for Panchayati Raj Institutions for the year 2000-01.

Tribunals for tax evasion cases

†4299. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of cases involving a very large amount are in dispute for tax fixation, are lying pending for settlement in courts and tribunals;

(b) if so, the number of cases lying pending till December, 2001; and

(c) the total amount which has become disputable due to the said cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE. N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) In respect of central excise duty, 9029 cases were pending in the courts and in the Customs Excise & Gold Control Appellate Tribunal as on 31.12.2001, involving an amount of Rs. 5579.25 crore. A total of 6080 cases were pending in the courts in respect of customs duty as on 31.12.2001, involving an amount of Rs. 827 crore. In respect of income tax, 110100 cases were pending in the courts and in the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, as on 31.12.2001, involving an amount of Rs. 7460.65 crore.

Non-payment of proceeds from sale of shares

†4300. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding non-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.